

Serial Number: 09/915.975

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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to format a content item, comprising:
converting the content item embodied in a text file into an
indiscriminate markup file in at least one processor based system, the indiscriminate
markup file nesting each one of a plurality of lines of the text file between a
corresponding pair of indiscriminate tags, wherein each pair of indiscriminate tags
bears no relation to a nature of the line of text of the text file nested therebetween;
and

transforming the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup
file into a discriminate markup file in the at least one processor based system, the
discriminate markup file including a number of discriminating tags that are
associated with a number of content elements.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of transforming the
content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup
file further comprises:

providing a discrimination stylesheet that includes a set of
discrimination instructions to transform the indiscriminate markup file into the
discriminate markup file; and

applying the discrimination stylesheet and the indiscriminate markup
file to a transformation processor, thereby implementing the set of discrimination
instructions.

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4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the step of providing a discrimination stylesheet that includes a set of discrimination instructions to transform the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file further comprises providing the set of discrimination instructions to write each of the number of content elements in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file with a pair of associated discriminating tags.

5. (Currently Amended) A method to format a content item, comprising:
~~The method of claim 3,~~

converting the content item embodied in a text file into an indiscriminate markup file in at least one processor based system;

transforming the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into a discriminate markup file in the at least one processor based system, the discriminate markup file including a number of discriminating tags that are associated with a number of content elements, wherein the step of transforming the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file further comprises:

providing a discrimination stylesheet that includes a set of discrimination instructions to transform the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file;

applying the discrimination stylesheet and the indiscriminate markup file to a transformation processor, thereby implementing the set of discrimination instructions; and

wherein the step of providing the discrimination stylesheet further comprises:

providing a heuristics markup file that sets forth a relative position of the content elements of the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file;

providing a heuristics stylesheet that sets forth a set of heuristic instructions to translate the heuristics markup file into the discrimination stylesheet; and

applying the heuristics markup file and the heuristics stylesheet to a transformation processor to generate the discrimination stylesheet.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of associating the heuristics markup file with the text file.

7. (Currently Amended) A program embodied on a computer readable medium to format a content item, comprising:

code that converts the content item embodied in a text file into an indiscriminate markup file, the indiscriminate markup file nesting each one of a plurality of lines of the text file between a corresponding pair of indiscriminate tags, wherein each pair of indiscriminate tags bears no relation to a nature of the line of text of the text file nested therebetween; and

code that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into a discriminate markup file, the discriminate markup file including a number of discriminating tags that are associated with a number of content elements.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 7, wherein the code that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file further comprises:

a transformation processor; and

code that applies a discrimination stylesheet and the indiscriminate markup file to the transformation processor, the discrimination stylesheet including a set of discrimination instructions to transform the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file.

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10. (Original) The program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of discrimination instructions further comprises a number of instructions that write each of the number of content elements in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file with a pair of associated discriminating tags.

11. (Currently Amended) A program embodied on a computer readable medium to format a content item, comprising: ~~The program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 9,~~

code that converts the content item embodied in a text file into an indiscriminate markup file; and

code that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into a discriminate markup file, the discriminate markup file including a number of discriminating tags that are associated with a number of content elements, wherein the code that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file further comprises:

a transformation processor;

code that applies a discrimination stylesheet and the indiscriminate markup file to the transformation processor, the discrimination stylesheet including a set of discrimination instructions to transform the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file; and

code that applies a heuristics markup file and a heuristics stylesheet to the transformation processor to generate the discrimination stylesheet, wherein the heuristics markup file sets forth a relative position of the content elements of the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file, and, the heuristics stylesheet sets forth a set of heuristics instructions to transform the heuristics markup file into the discrimination stylesheet.

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12. (Original) The program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the code that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file further comprises code that associates the heuristics markup file with the text file.

13. (Currently Amended) A formatting system, comprising:
a processor circuit having a processor and a memory;
a content item embodied in a text file stored in the memory;
formatting logic stored in the memory and executable by the processor,
the formatting logic comprising:

logic that converts the content item embodied in the text file into an indiscriminate markup file, the indiscriminate markup file nesting each one of a plurality of lines of the text file between a corresponding pair of indiscriminate tags, wherein each pair of indiscriminate tags bears no relation to a nature of the line of text of the text file nested therebetween; and

logic that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into a discriminate markup file, the discriminate markup file including a number of discriminating tags that are associated with a number of content elements.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The formatting system of claim 13, wherein the logic that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file further comprises:

a transformation processor; and

logic that applies a discrimination stylesheet and the indiscriminate markup file to the transformation processor, the discrimination stylesheet including a set of discrimination instructions to transform the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file.

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16. (Currently Amended) A formatting system, comprising: The formatting system of claim 15, further comprising:

a processor circuit having a processor and a memory;

a content item embodied in a text file stored in the memory;

formatting logic stored in the memory and executable by the processor,

the formatting logic comprising:

logic that converts the content item embodied in the text file into an indiscriminate markup file; and

logic that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into a discriminate markup file, the discriminate markup file including a number of discriminating tags that are associated with a number of content elements, wherein the logic that transforms the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file further comprises:

a transformation processor; and

logic that applies a discrimination stylesheet and the indiscriminate markup file to the transformation processor, the discrimination stylesheet including a set of discrimination instructions to transform the indiscriminate markup file into the discriminate markup file;

a heuristics markup file stored in the memory, the heuristics markup file setting forth a relative position of the content elements of the content item embodied in the indiscriminate markup file;

a heuristics stylesheet stored in the memory, the heuristics stylesheet setting forth a set of heuristics instructions to transform the heuristics markup file into the discrimination stylesheet; and

wherein the formatting logic further comprises logic that applies the heuristics markup file and the heuristics stylesheet to the transformation processor to generate the discrimination stylesheet.

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17. (Currently Amended) A formatting system, comprising:
means for converting a content item embodied in a text file into an indiscriminate markup file, the indiscriminate markup file nesting each one of a plurality of lines of the text file between a corresponding pair of indiscriminate tags, wherein each pair of indiscriminate tags bears no relation to a nature of the line of text of the text file nested therebetween; and
means for transforming the content item embodied in the Indiscriminate markup file into a discriminate markup file, the discriminate markup file including a number of discriminating tags that are associated with a number of content elements.
18. (Canceled)
19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the pairs of the indiscriminate tags are the same.
20. (New) The program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 7, wherein each of the pairs of the indiscriminate tags are the same.
21. (New) The formatting system of claim 13, wherein each of the pairs of the indiscriminate tags are the same.
22. (New) The formatting system of claim 17, wherein each of the pairs of the indiscriminate tags are the same.